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Attorney Docket No. P400580

IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of:)
Kenichi Muramatsu, et al)
Filed: 23 January 2005)
Title: ILLUMINATING OPTICAL SYSTEM,)
EXPOSURE SYSTEM AND EXPOSURE)
METHOD)

)

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant submits its Preliminary Amendment as follows:

In the Specification:

The first paragraph on page one has been added reflecting the priority applications as follows:

This application is a national phase of PCT/JP2004/009128 that claims priority from Japanese patent application No. 2003-201079 filed July 24, 2003 and Japanese patent application no. 2003-338446 filed September 9, 2003.

In the Claims:

Claim numbers 14 through 17 have been amended as follows to eliminate multiple dependent claims: